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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Brits, Willem Hendrik ) Group Art Unit Unknown  
Appl. No. : 09/830,855 )  
Filed : April 27, 2001 )  
For : ASSAYING )  
Examiner : Unknown )

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

May 29, 2001

(Date)

Karoline A. Delaney, Reg. No. 44,058

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5/17/02

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and subsequent to the Preliminary Amendment mailed April 27, 2001, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph following the title "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" on Page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

AI  
This application is a national phase application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT Application Serial Number PCT/IB99/01747 filed on October 29, 1999 which claims priority to South African Application Serial Number 98/9866 filed on October 29, 1998, South African Application Serial Number 98/9867 filed on October 29, 1998 and South African Application Serial Number 99/1831, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

REMARKS

In the previous Preliminary Amendment the section "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" was added. However, in the Preliminary Amendment, the paragraph on the page entitled VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE was inconsistent with the added paragraph on page 1 of the Preliminary Amendment. Changes made to the paragraph

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in this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment are made in respect to the paragraph from page 1 of the Preliminary Amendment. The specific changes to the paragraph are shown on a separate set of pages attached hereto and entitled **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**, which follows the signature page of this Amendment. On this set of pages, the insertions are underlined.

The foregoing amendments now add references to all of the South African applications to which the present application claims priority. The above requested changes to the application do not add new matter, and entry of the amendments is respectfully requested. If, however, there are any matters which could be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned by telephone so that any such matters can be promptly resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: May 29, 2001

By: Karoline A. Delaney

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

The following paragraph, immediately following the heading "Cross-Reference to Related Applications," on Page 1 has been amended as follows:

This application is a national phase application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT Application Serial Number PCT/IB99/01747 filed on October 29, 1999 which claims priority to South African Application Serial Number 98/9866 filed on October 29, 1998, South African Application Serial Number 98/9867 filed on October 29, 1998 and South African Application Serial Number 99/1831, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.